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POLICIES OF APARTHEID OF THE
GOVERNMENT OF SOUTH AFRICA

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-eighth year

Letter dated 9 March 1993 from the Permanent Representative of South Africa to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

As you are aware, a Multi-party Planning Conference, aimed at securing consensus on the resumption of full-scale, multi-party constitutional negotiations, was held at Kempton Park, South Africa, on 5 and 6 March 1993.

I have pleasure in informing you that the Multi-party Planning Conference, attended by 26 delegations representing the full spectrum of political parties and organizations in South Africa, on 6 March 1993 adopted a resolution in accordance with which:

(a) The participants committed themselves, individually and collectively, to the resumption of multi-party constitutional negotiations within the next month;

(b) It was agreed that the multi-party forum would be reconvened, as a matter of national urgency, not later than 5 April 1993.

The text of the resolution, adopted unanimously, with the single exception of the Conservative Party, is attached (see annex).

The significance of this development is twofold:

(a) Political parties and movements that did not previously participate in the Convention for a Democratic South Africa (CODESA) attended the Multi-party Planning Conference, thus ensuring that the principle of inclusiveness, basic to the negotiation process, is promoted;

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* A/48/50.

(b) The decision to resume multi-party negotiations by 5 April 1993 is in step with the timetable for the transitional process announced by State President de Klerk on 26 November 1992 (see A/47/738, annex), which envisaged the resumption of the multi-party forum by the end of March 1993.

I should be grateful if the present letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under item 38 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) V. R. W. STEWARD
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

ANNEX

RESOLUTION ON THE NEED FOR THE RESUMPTION/COMMENCEMENT OF MULTIPARTY NEGOTIATIONS

We, the parties, organisations and administrations assembled in this the Multiparty Planning Conference :

AWARE of the responsibility we individually and collectively bear for the well-being of our country;

BELIEVING that the problems of our country should be resolved peacefully through a process of negotiation;

REALISING the urgent need for the economic development of the country;

AGREEING that the resources of the country need to be preserved, developed and improved for the benefit of all the people of this country and for future generations;

ACCEPTING that all the people of this country and the whole community of nations throughout the world look to us to move the country forward towards a non-racial, non-sexist and fully democratic future;

NOW RESOLVE TO :

1. Commit ourselves, individually and collectively, to the resumption/commencement of multiparty negotiations within the next month, in order to move as speedily as possible towards the attainment of our primary objective, which is the drafting and adoption of a new Constitution for South Africa;

AND FURTHER RESOLVES THAT :

2. The multiparty forum shall be reconvened as a matter of national urgency, not later than 5 April 1993;

3. Each participating organisation will send two delegates and two advisors.

4. The first meeting will determine :

   4.1 mechanisms and procedures (including chairmanship);

   4.2 how to accommodate the views of those participants who were not in CODESA in relation to the agreements reached in CODESA;

4.3 how these agreements can serve as a constructive foundation for the resumed negotiations process to build on;

4.4 how this forum shall be structured and named;

4.5 the role of the international community.

5. The Facilitating Committee of this conference will have the responsibility of deciding upon and implementing the steps that are necessary to give effect to this resolution.

6. All participants are required to make an unqualified commitment to this process as a pre-requisite for their participation.